THE SEVERAL ACTS OF PARLIAMENT MADE

For Eſtabliſhing, Ordering and Collecting of His Majeſties Revenue ariſing

BY

HEARTH-MONEY:

Abſtracted alſo in an INDEX,

AND

Margented accordingly,

For the benefit of ſuch perſons as are or may be concerned therein.

LONDON,
Printed by *John Bill*, *Chriſtopher Barker*, *Thomas Newcomb*, and *Henry Hills*, Printers to the Kings Moſt Excellent Majeſty, 1678.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

An Abſtract

OF THE

Acts contained in this Book.

First Act.

Anno xiv Caroli II. Regis.

FRom the 25 of *March* 1662, Every houſe, *&c.* in *England* and *Wales* ſhall be chargeable with the Annual payment of Two ſhillings for every Fire-hearth, *&c.* within every ſuch houſe, *&c.* *pag.* 3

Payable at *Michaelmas* and *Lady*-day by equal portions.

Every Occupier ſhall deliver a juſt accompt of his Fire-hearths, *&c.* to the Conſtables, *&c.* within ſix days after notice. 4

The Conſtables, *&c.* ſhall require ſuch an Accompt by the laſt day of *May*, 1662. 5

Such Accompts ſhall be in writing under the hands of the Occupiers.

Notice ſhall be fixed to the doors of empty houſes. 6

The

The Conſtables, *&c.* ſhall enter into all houſes, *&c.* and compare the Accompts.

And ſhall take information by their own view, where no Accompt is delivered.

The Conſtables, *&c.* ſhall forfeit five pounds for every weeks neglect.

Fourty ſhillings ſhall be forfeited for every falſe return. 7

The Conſtables, *&c.* ſhall deliver their Accompts to the Juſtices of the Peace, at the next Quarter-Seſſions after the ſaid laſt of *May*;

With the names of ſuch perſons as have not given in their Accompts. 8

The Juſtices ſhall cauſe ſuch Accompts to be Inrolled by the Clerk of the Peace,

And a Duplicate thereof (ſigned by three Juſtices) ſhall be returned into the Exchequer within one moneth.

The Clerk of the Peace ſhall forfeit Two hundred pounds for the firſt months neglect. 9

And for the ſecond, he ſhall loſe his place.

The Officers ſhall Collect the moneys within ſix days after due. 10

They ſhall give Acquittances freely,

And ſuch Acquittances ſhall be a full diſcharge. 11

The Collectors (upon non-payment) ſhall Levy the ſame by diſtreſs and ſale of goods,

Rendring the overplus, charges deducted.

The Collectors ſhall (within twenty days after due) pay the money to the High Conſtables. 12

The High Conſtables ſhall give the Collectors Acquittances, and allow them two pence in the pound for Collecting.

The Collectors ſhall deliver to the High Conſtables, the names of the perſons who have paid,

With the names of ſuch as have not paid, where no diſtreſs can be had. 13

The High Conſtables (within ten days after their receipt) ſhall pay the moneys to the High Sheriffs,

Deducting one peny in the pound for their pains.

They ſhall deliver alſo the Returns they received from the Collectors.

The Sheriffs (within thirty days) ſhall return the moneys into the Exchequer,

With the Defaulters names not diſtrainable, 14

Deducting four pence in the pound, *viz.* three pence for themſelves, and one peny for the Clerk of the Peace.

High Sheriffs of Cities or Towns, being Counties of themſelves, are made Collectors, *&c.* 15

Conſtables, *&c.* in ſuch places ſhall deliver Duplicates to ſuch Sheriffs.

Such Sheriffs ſhall Levy the Duty, and give Acquittances without Fees. 16

And ſhall (within fourty days after due)

due) return the money into the Exchequer, with the names of persons not distrainable,

Deducting three pence in the pound for themselves, and one peny for the Clerk of the Peace. 17

The Exchequer Officers shall discharge persons without Fees,

And shall issue out Process against Defaulters, &c.

The Revenues of this Act shall be paid duly into the Exchequer, and shall not be charged with any Gift or Grant, &c. 18

All such Grants, &c. shall be void, and the Grantees shall be made Accomptants, &c.

All persons acting herein, shall be Indemnified, 19

And shall recover treble Costs, if molested.

Increase or decrease of such Hearths, &c. shall be made in form aforesaid, 20

And the Occupiers shall be charged or discharged accordingly.

No person shall be accomptable for any Arrears, unless put in Suit within two years,

And be brought to a Judgement within four years, and the Duty Levied within five years from the time due.

No person exempted (by reason of poverty) from payments to the Church and Poor, shall be chargeable by this Act, &c. 21

Certificates may be given by the Church-wardens and Overſeers for the Poor, with the Miniſter, *&c.* 22

Upon ſuch Certificates (allowed by the two next Juſtices of the Peace) perſons ſhall not be returned.

And ſuch houſe, *&c.* ſhall be diſcharged. 23

Perſons procuring or accepting any Penſion, *&c.* out of this Revenue, ſhall forfeit double the value;

The one moyety to the Poor, and the other to the party Suing. 24

No Blowing-houſe, *&c.* ſhall be charged by this Act.

Nor any Hearth within the Scite of any Hoſpital, *&c.*

The paymens ſhall be charged upon the Occupiers only. 25

No perſon indebted for the Duties of this Act, ſhall be thereby priviledged to Sue another in the Exchequer, *&c.* 26

Second Act.

Anno xv Caroli II. Regis.

THe Juſtices of Peace at the next Seſſions after *Michaelmas* 1663, ſhall iſſue Warrants to the High Conſtables, *&c.* 28

Who ſhall iſſue like Warrants to the Petty Conſtables, *&c.*

Re-

Requiring them (the next Sunday after morning Service) to give publick notice in the Church, &c.

And particular notice to every Occupier of any house, &c. within their Precincts,

That (within ten days) they give to them a just Accompt of all Houses, &c. 29

The Constables, &c. shall (upon Receipt thereof) with two other inhabitants enter into all Houses, &c.

And shall compare and examine the truth of such Accompts, and Endorse them according to view,

And transmit them (within twenty days after Receipt) to the High Constables, &c.

Together with a Book or Roll with two Columes; 30

The one with the names of the Persons and Hearths, &c. chargeable in their possessions.

The other of Persons and Hearths, &c. not chargeable.

The High Constables, &c. shall compare, and (within six days after Receipt) transmit them to the two next Justices of Peace,

Who shall examine the said High Constables, &c. upon Oath concerning the truth of their Actings. 31

The said Justices shall (within ten days after examination) Sign and transmit such Accompts to the Clerk of the Peace.

The Clerk of the Peace (within twenty-

days) ſhall Engroſs the ſaid Book or Roll, &c.

And (within two moneths) Engroſs a Duplicate thereof.

Which Signed by him and two Juſtices, &c. ſhall be tranſmitted (within one moneth) into the Exchequer. 32

Every Occupier not giving in (or omitting any Hearth, &c. in) his Accompt, ſhall forfeit Fourty ſhillings for every ſuch Omiſſion.

The Conſtables, &c. neglecting their Duty, ſhall forfeit for every offence Five pound. 33

Every High Conſtable, &c. neglecting his Duty, ſhall forfeit for each offence Ten pound.

Which forfeitures ſhall be recovered by Action of Debt, &c. 34

The changing of Annual Officers ſhall not Excuſe or Diſable them from Collecting, &c. any the Revenves payable, &c. 35

Every perſon appointed by the Acts to Collect, &c. ſhall forfeit Twenty ſhillings for every weeks neglect of his Duty.

Any Officer (by the Acts enabled to Enter and Diſtrain) may call to his Aid two other inhabitants, &c. 36

All Sheriffs made Collectors may Execute by their Deputies. 37

The Officers of Inns of Court, &c. ſhall do all things as the Conſtables, &c. under like penalties, and without Warrant from the Juſtices.

And

And Occupiers there ſhall do all things under like Penalties as Occupiers elſewhere. 38

The High Bayliff of *weſtminſter*, &c. may (after the Twenty eighth of *September* 1663) put the Powers of the Acts in Execution, *&c.*

And ſhall be ſubject to the ſame Penalties, and receive the ſame reward as other, *&c.*

The Sheriff of *Middleſex* is diſcharged from Acting in *Weſtminſter*, ſave about Arrears onely. 39

The Conſtables, *&c.* of *weſtminſter*, ſhall deliver their Accompts to the ſaid Bayliff.

The Bayliff of *Southwark* may Execute like Powers, *&c.* 40

He ſhall be ſubject to like Penalties, and may receive like Reward, *&c.*

The Sheriff of *Surrey* diſabled, *&c.*

The Conſtables, *&c.* of *Southwark* ſhall deliver their Accompts to the ſaid Bayliff. 41

The Lord Treaſurer, and Chancellour of the Exchequer may make further Allowance to the Clerks of the Peace, not exceeding one peny in the pound. 42

Third Act.

Anno xvi Caroli II. Regis.

THe Kings Majeſty, *&c.* may appoint Officers to Receive and Anſwer the

the Duty ariſing by Fire-hearths, &c. 49

And for viewing and numbring the ſaid Hearths, &c. and inſpecting the Returns thereof made, and to be made,

And to examine the Rolls, &c. returned into the Exchequer.

And with a Conſtable, &c. (or without where none) to enter into any Houſe, &c. 50

And ſearch, if there be any more Fire-hearths, &c.

And what are increaſed, and what decreaſed, &c.

And to make like ſearch once every year.

If they ſhall find any Variance, they ſhall Certifie the ſame to the Clerk of the Peace. 51

Which being approved by the Juſtices at their Seſſions, ſhall be tranſmitted into the Exchequer.

Such Officers ſhall Collect the Duty from the 24 of *June* 1664.

The Duty ſhall be paid (when due) upon demand thereof at the Houſe, &c. 52

In default of payment one hour after Demand, the Duty may be Levied by Diſtreſs and ſale of Goods, &c.

Reſtoring the overplus, Charges deducted not exceeding one Moyety of the Duty. 53

None ſhall be charged, &c. for the Duty after it hath been due two years.

Nor for any old Arrears, after two years from the 24 of *June* 1664.

Oppo-

Oppoſition or Injury to any Officer, *&c.* ſhall be proved by Oath before a Juſtice of Peace. 54

Such Juſtice of Peace may impriſon Offenders for the ſpace of one moneth.

After the 24 of *June* 1664. all Officers appointed to Collect the Duty by the former Acts, ſhall be diſcharged from Acting otherwiſe then by this Act. 55.

The Officers ſo appointed ſhall pay the Duty into the Exchequer.

All perſons to be employed ſhall give ſecurity for the diſcharge of their Truſts,

And ſhall take a Corporal Oath, *&c.* for the due Execution thereof. 56

They ſhall not demand any Fee, *&c.* under penalty of diſabling and rendring treble, *&c.*

They ſhall give Acquittances, which ſhall be final Diſcharges.

Upon removal of any Occupier, *&c.* before the half-year day, 57

The next Occupier ſhall be chargeable with ſuch half-years Dues.

They that ſhall ſtop up, *&c.* any Hearth, *&c.* chargeable, ſhall pay double the value of the Duty.

They that within one year paſt have (or hereafter ſhall) let the Lands, *&c.* formerly belonging to any houſe, *&c.* or ſhall divide any Houſe, or Let the ſame to Perſons exempted by the Acts, ſhall pay the Duty as they ought to have done before. 58

The Occupier of every Dwelling (not being

being an Alms-house) which hath more then two Chimneys, *&c.* in it, shall not be exempted, *&c.* 59

Differences arising about Execution of this Act shall be determined by one or more Justices of Peace.

Collectors not paying in the Moneys received by them within three moneths after due, shall lose their Offices. 60

Justices of Peace, *&c.* are required to assist the Officers appointed to Collect the Duty.

No persons producing a Certificate for their exemption, shall be questioned for any Arrears due, on or before *Lady-day*, 1664. 61

Nor any person who hath paid the Duty, and shall make proof thereof.

The Collectors appointed by this Act, *&c.* shall pay unto the Constables, *&c.* the Allowances made to them in any of the former Acts. 62

Anno

Anno Regni
CAROLI II.
REGIS
Angliæ, Scotiæ, Franciæ & Hiberniæ,
DECIMO QUARTO.

At the *Parliament* begun at *Weſtminſter* the Eighth day of *May*, *Anno Dom.* 1661. In the Thirteenth Year of the Reign of our moſt Gracious Sovereign Lord *CHARLES*, by the Grace of God, of *England*, *Scotland*, *France* and *Ireland* King, Defender of the Faith, *&c.*

And there continued till the Nineteenth of *May*, in the Fourteenth Year of His Majeſties ſaid Reign. And thence Prorogued to the Eighteenth of *February* then next following.

LONDON,
Printed by *John Bill*, *Chriſtopher Barker*, *Thomas Newcomb*, and *Henry Hills*, Printers to the Kings Moſt Excellent Majeſty, 1678.

CUM PRIVILEGIO.

Anno XIV
CAROLI II. Regis.

AN ACT FOR

Eſtabliſhing an Additional Revenue upon His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, for the better ſupport of His and their Crown and Dignity.

FOraſmuch as nothing conduceth more to the Peace and Proſperity of a Nation, and the Protection of every ſingle PREAMBLE.

person therein, then that the Publick Revenue thereof may be in some measure proportioned to the publick Charges and Expences; We therefore, Your Majesties most Loyal and Obedient Subjects, the Commons assembled in Parliament, having duly considered the Premisses, do give and grant unto Your most Excellent Majesty, Your Heirs and Successors, the Rates and Duties herein after mentioned; and do humbly beseech Your Majesty that it be Enacted, And be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by, and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons in Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the Five and

From the 25 of *March* 1662. Every house, &c. in *England* and *Wales*, shall be chargeable with the Annual payment of Two shillings for every Fire-hearth, &c. within every such house, &c.

and twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord God, One thousand six hundred sixty and two, every dwelling, and other House and Edifice, and all Lodgings, and Chambers in the Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies that are, or hereafter shall be erected within the Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed (other then such as in this Act are hereafter excepted and declared) shall be chargeable, and by this present Act, be and are charged with the Annual payment to the Kings Majesty, his Heirs and Successors, for every Fire-hearth and Stove within every such House, Edifice, Chamber, and Lodging, as aforesaid, the Sum of Two shillings by the year, to be paid yearly, and every year

Payable at *Michaelmas* and *Lady*-day, by equal portions.

at the Feast of St. Michael the Archangel, and the Feast of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin St. Mary, by even and equal portions; the First payment thereof to be paid upon the Feast-day of St. Michael the Archangel, which shall be in the year of our Lord, One thousand six hundred sixty and two.

And to the intent that a just account may be had and taken of all the said Hearths and Stoves by this Act intended to be charged; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That every Owner or Occupier of every such House, Edifice, Lodgings and Chambers, shall respectively within six days after notice given unto him or them by the respective Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, or other such Officers, within whose Precinct the said House, Edifice, Cham-

Every Occupier shall deliver a just Accompt of his Fire-hearths, &c. to the Constables, &c. within six days after notice.

Chambers or Lodgings shall be, or by the respective Treasurers or Officers of Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, or other Officers of the respective Colledges, and other Societies aforesaid, wherein any such Lodgings and Chambers shall be, deliver unto the said Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, or other such Officers as aforesaid respectively, a true and just account in writing under the hands of such Owners or Occupiers as aforesaid, of all the said Hearths and Stoves which are within their several and respective Houses, Lodgings and Chambers aforesaid.

And be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the respective Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, or other such Officers, within whose limits any such House or Edifice charged by

The Constables, &c. shall require such an Accompt by the last day of *May*, 1662.

this Act as aforesaid, are, and the respective Treasurers, and other Officers of the respective Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies aforesaid, shall by the last day of May, One thousand six hundred sixty and two, require the several Occupiers of every such House, Edifice, Lodging & Chamber aforesaid, to deliver in to them respectively Accompts in writing as aforesaid, under the several and respective hands, of all such Hearths and Stoves as aforesaid, as shall be within their respective Houses, Edifices, Lodgings and Chambers; and upon receipt of the same, or upon default of such Accompt in writing, or in case there be no Occupiers, then within six days after notice in writing first to the door, requiring such accompt to be made,

Such Accompts shall be in writing under the hands of the Occupiers.

Notice shall be fixed to the doors of empty houses.

made, the ſaid Conſtables, or other Officers reſpectively, as aforeſaid, ſhall enter into the ſaid reſpective Houſes in the day-time, and compare ſuch Accompts, and ſee whether the ſame be truly made, or not. And if no ſuch Accompt be delivered, then ſhall take information by their own view, of the number of ſuch Hearths and Stoves, upon pain that every Conſtable, Treaſurer, and other Officer aforeſaid, who ſhall neglect to do the ſame, ſhall forfeit for every week he or they ſhall ſo neglect, the ſum of Five pounds; and for every falſe return wilfully made, contrary to this Act, he or they ſhall forfeit and loſe for every Hearth or Stove ſo falſly returned or omitted, the ſum of Fourty ſhillings.

The Conſtables, &c. ſhall enter into all houſes, &c. and compare the Accompts.

And ſhall take information by their own view, where no Accompt is delivered.

The Conſtables, &c. ſhall forfeit five pound for every weeks neglect.

Fourty ſhillings ſhall be forfeited for every falſe return.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid,

said, That the several Constables, and other Officers, who are hereby authorized to take the accompt of the aforesaid Hearths & Stoves within their particular Limits as aforesaid, shall at the next Quarter-Sessions after the said last day of May, to be holden for their respective Counties, deliver all such Accounts in writing, as they shall receive, reform, or take by their own view, unto the Justices of Peace in their respective Quarter-Sessions of the said Counties, together with a true Note of the names of all such persons who shall refuse or neglect to give unto them an account under their hands of such Hearths and Stoves within their respective Houses, Edifices, Chambers and Lodgings, as aforesaid.

The Constables, &c. shall deliver their Accompts to the Justices of the Peace at the next Quarter-Sessions after the said last of *May*.

With the names of such persons as have not given in their Accounts.

And be it further Enacted, That

That the ſaid Juſtices of Peace ſhall cauſe all the ſaid Accompts of the ſeveral Hearths and Stoves within the reſpective Counties, to be Inrolled by the Clerk of the Peace of the ſaid reſpective Counties, Ridings in Yorkſhire, and Diviſions in Lincolnſhire, and alſo a Duplicate thereof in Parchment, under the Hands and Seals of three or more of the Juſtices of Peace of the reſpective Counties and Places aforeſaid, who are hereby required to ſign the ſame, to be returned into His Majeſties Court of Exchequer within one moneth next after ſuch account delivered unto them at their reſpective Quarter Seſſions aforeſaid, upon pain that the Clerk of the Peace of every ſuch County, Riding or Diviſion reſpectively offending therein, ſhall forfeit to His Majeſty,

The Juſtices ſhall cauſe ſuch Accompts to be enrolled by the Clerk of the Peace.

And a Duplicate thereof (ſigned by three Juſtices) ſhall be returned into the Exchequer within one moneth.

The Clerk of the Peace ſhall forfeit 200 *l.* for the firſt moneths neglect.

His Heirs and Succeſſors, the ſum of Two hundred pounds for the firſt moneth; and for the ſecond moneth he ſhall ſo neglect, every ſuch Clerk of the Peace ſhall forfeit and loſe His or their place and office, and the ſame ſhall become void accordingly; which forfeiture and penalty ſhall be recovered and levied as this Act directs.

And for the ſecond he ſhall loſe his place.

And to the intent that the Revenue hereby ariſing to His Majeſty, may from time to time be paid into His Exchequer with as little charge as may be; Be it Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the reſpective Treaſurers, and other Officers of the Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies aforeſaid, within their reſpective Jurisdictions, and the ſeveral Petty-Conſtables, Tithing-men, Head-

The Officers ſhall Collect the moneys within ſix days after due.

Head-boroughs, and such other Officers within the respective Limits, Liberties and Jurisdictions, shall every half year, within six days after the said duty shall grow due, as aforesaid, collect, gather, and receive the same from the several Occupiers of the said Hearths and Stoves, and upon payment thereof, shall give several Acquittances (without taking any thing for such Acquittances) unto the several persons who shall pay the same: And that such Acquittances shall be a full and perfect discharge to every such person who shall pay the same, against His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors; so that no person who shall have such Acquittance, shall be molested, sued, or vexed, or put to any charge in His Majesties Court of Exchequer or elsewhere.

They shall give Acquittances freely.

And such Acquittances shall be a full discharge.

And

The Collectors (upon non-payment) ſhall Levy the ſame by diſtreſs and ſale of goods.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That in caſe any perſon who is hereby charged, or intended to be charged to pay any ſum or ſums of money as aforeſaid, ſhall refuſe or neglect to pay the ſame, that then every perſon or perſons who is hereby authorized to Collect the ſame, ſhall and may levy the ſame by diſtreſs and ſale of the goods of the perſon and perſons ſo refuſing or neglecting, rendring unto the ſaid perſon and perſons the overplus of ſuch money as ſhall remain in their hands by the ſaid ſale, after the ſaid duty and neceſſary charges of Levying the ſame is diſcharged as aforeſaid.

Rendring the over-plus, charges deducted.

The Collectors ſhall (within twenty days after due) pay the money to the High Conſtables.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That the aforeſaid Conſtables, Treaſurers, and other Officers, who are hereby authorized to Collect the afore-

aforesaid Duties, shall within Twenty days next after the aforesaid times at which the said Duties shall be due to His Majesty, as aforesaid, pay unto the High-Constables of the several Hundreds and respective Limits, all such money as they shall receive for the aforesaid Duties, receiving an Acquittance without paying any thing for the same, and deducting Two pence in the pound for their pains in Collecting the same; And shall also then in writing under his hand, deliver unto the said High Constable, the names of the persons of whom they receive the same, and also the names of such persons who ought to have paid the respective Duties yearly charged upon them, and have not paid the same, where no distress can be had.

The High Constables shall give the Collectors Acquittances, and allow them two pence in the pound for collecting.

The Collectors shall deliver to the High Constables the names of the persons who have paid,

with the names of such as have not paid, where no distress can be had.

And be it further Enacted, That

The High Constables (within ten days after their receipt) shall pay the moneys to the High Sheriffs.

That the High Constables of the several Hundreds and respective Limits, shall within ten days next after their several receipts from the said Constables, Headboroughs, Tithing-men, and other Officers, pay unto the High Sheriffs of every County, all such money as they shall so receive, deducting a peny in the pound for their pains; and shall also then deliver or cause to be delivered unto the said High Sheriffs, the several returns which they received from the Constables, and other Officers aforesaid.

Deducting one peny in the pound for their pains. They shall deliver also the returns they received from the Collectors.

The Sheriffs (within thirty days) shall return the moneys into the Exchequer,

And the respective Sheriffs shall within thirty days after he or they shall receive the said moneys from the respective Collectors, return the same, together with the names of such persons who are defaulters, and had no distress to be found,

with the defaulters names not distreinable.

found, into His Majesties Court of Exchequer, deducting Four pence out of every Twenty shillings, and so after that rate; whereof Three pence to be for the Sheriffs own use, as a reward of his pains in receiving and returning the same; and One peny to be paid by the Sheriff to the Clerk of the Peace, for his pains, to be recovered by the said Clerk of the Peace by Action of Debt.

deducting Four pence in the pound, *viz.* three pence for themselves, and one peny for the Clerk of the Peace.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That the High Sheriff of London and Middlesex for the time being, for London and so much of the County of Middlesex as lies within the Bills of Mortality, other then the Inns of Court and Chancery; and the High Sheriff of Surrey for the time being for the Burrough of Southwark, and all other Sheriffs of any other City or Town, being a

High Sheriffs of Cities or Towns, being Counties of themselves, are made Collectors, *&c.*

a County of it self, for such Cities and Towns respectively, shall be, and are hereby made Collectors of, and for the several duties arising within their several and respective Limits; For which end and purpose, and in those places onely, the Constables, Tithingmen, Headboroughs and other Officers shall deliver unto the Sheriffs of the Cities and Places aforesaid, Duplicates of the same Accompts of Hearths and Stoves, which the said Constables, Headboroughs, Tithingmen, and other Officers are appointed by this Act to take from time to time, and to deliver to the Justices of Peace, to be Inrolled as aforesaid; And the said Sheriffs of the Cities and places last before mentioned, are hereby enabled to Levy the said Duties, and required to give Acquittances,

Constables, &c. in such places shall deliver Duplicates to such Sheriffs.

Such Sheriffs shall Levy the Duties, and give Acquittances without Fees.

ces, without any Fees, as fully and amply to all intents and purposes as in this Act is appointed to be done by any other Collectors; And the said Sheriffs shall from time to time within Fourty days after the said Duties shall be payable by vertue of this Act, make payment of all the monies levied, into His Majesties Exchequer, with a perfect List of the names of such persons as shall make default of payment, where no distress can be found to be taken; Any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding. And the said Sheriffs shall deduct out of their payments Four pence in the pound; whereof Three pence to be for themselves, and One peny for the Clerk of the Peace, to be recovered as aforesaid.

And shall (within Fourty days after due) return the money into the Exchequer; with the names of persons not distreinable,

deducting three pence in the pound for themselves, and one peny for the Clerk of the peace.

And that His Majesties Officers

The Exchequer-Officers shall discharge persons without Fees:

Officers in his said Court of Exchequer, shall discharge all such persons who paid their respective Duties, without taking any Fees for the same, and shall also

And shall issue out process against defaulters, &c.

issue out Process to Levy the said duty upon such persons who shall fail in payment thereof, where no distress can be found to be taken according to this Act.

The Revenues of this Act shall be paid duly into the Exchequer, and shall not be charged with any Gift or Grant, &c.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Revenue and Sum of money arising by vertue of this Act, (Except what shall be allowed to the aforesaid Officers and Ministers for Collecting the same) shall be duly and constantly paid and answered into His Majesties Court of Exchequer; and shall not be particularly charged or chargeable, either before it be paid into the Exchequer, or after, with

with any Gift, Grants, or Pension whatsoever; And that all and every Grants of any such Pensions, and all and every clause of Non obstante therein contained, shall be, and is hereby declared to be utterly void; and all and every the persons to whom such Grants are passed, shall be, and are hereby made Accomptants unto His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and shall pay back all sums of money received by pretence of such Grant; and the Court of Exchequer shall be, and is hereby enjoyned to issue out process accordingly.

All such Grants, &c. shall be void, and the Grantees shall be made Accomptants, &c.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Action, Bill, Plaint, Suit, or Information shall be Commenced or Prosecuted against any person or persons, for what he or they shall do in pursuance or execution of this

All persons acting herein shall be indemnified.

this Act, ſuch perſon or perſons ſo Sued, ſhall and may plead the general Iſſue, Not Guilty; And upon Iſſue joyned may give this Act, and the ſpecial matter in Evidence; and if the Plaintiff or Proſecutor ſhall become Non-ſuit, or ſuffer diſcontinuance, or if a Verdict paſs againſt him, or if upon a Demurrer Judgment paſs againſt him, the Defendant ſhall recover treble Coſts, for which there ſhall be like remedy as in any Caſe where Coſts by Law are given to the Defendants.

And ſhall recover treble coſts if moleſted.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That where any Increaſe or Decreaſe of ſuch Hearths or Stoves ſhall hereafter happen, that an account in writing of the ſame ſhall be had and made in like manner as the ſame is directed to be firſt taken,

Increaſe or Decreaſe of Hearths, &c. ſhall be made in form aforeſaid.

return-

returned and inrolled by this Act; And a Duplicate thereof sent into the Exchequer in such sort as is before directed; And from thenceforth the Owner or Occupier of such House, where such Decrease is, shall be discharged proportionably without any further pleading in the Exchequer.

And the Occupiers shall be charged or discharged accordingly.

Provided always, That no person or persons shall be charged, prosecuted, or brought to account for the Arrearages of any Duty, or Arrearages of Revenue raised by this Act, unless the said Suit shall commence within two years, and be brought to a Judgment within four years, and the Duty levied within Five years next after the same shall grow due.

No person shall be Accomptable for any Arrears, unless put in Suit within two years, and be brought to a Judgment within four years, & the duty levied within five years from the time due.

Provided always, That no person who by reason of his poverty, or the smalness of his Estate is exempted from the

No person exempted (by reason of poverty) from payments to the Church and Poor, shall be chargeable by this Act, &c.

the usual Taxes, Payments and Contributions, towards the Church and Poor, shall be charged or chargeable with any the Duties by this Act Imposed, Any thing herein before to the contrary notwithstanding.

Certificates may be given by the Church-wardens and Overseers for the Poor, with the Minister, &c.

Provided always, and be it hereby Enacted, That if the Church-wardens and Overseers of the Poor of the Parish, together with the Minister of the same, or any two of them (whereof the Minister to be one) shall in writing under their hands yearly certifie their belief, that the house wherein any person doth inhabit is not of greater value then of twenty shillings per annum, upon the full improved Rent; And that neither the person so Inhabiting, nor any other using the same Messuage, hath, useth, or occupieth any Lands or Tene-

Tenements of their own or others, of the yearly value of Twenty shillings per annum, nor hath any Lands, Tenements, Goods, or Chattels, of the value of Ten pounds in their own possession, or in the possession of any other in trust for them; That then in such case, upon such Certificate made to the two next Justices of Peace, and allowed by them (for which Certificate and allowance no Fee shall be paid) the person on whose behalf such Certificate is made, shall not be returned by the Constable, or other Officer; And the said house is hereby for that year discharged of, and from all the Duties by this Act imposed; Any thing herein to the contrary notwithstanding.

Upon such Certificates (allowed by the two Justices of the Peace) persons shall not be returned.

And such house, &c. shall be discharged.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority

Persons procuring or accepting any Pension, &c. out of this Revenue, shall forfeit double the value;

aforesaid, That if any person or persons, bodies Politick or Corporate, shall at any time hereafter procure or accept of from the Kings Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, any Pension, Gift, or Grant for years, life, or any other Estate, or any sum or sums of Money, out of the Revenue arising by vertue of this Act, that then such person or body Politick or Corporate, procuring or accepting the same, shall forfeit double the value of such Pension, Gift, or Grant: The one Moyety of which forfeiture shall be to the use of the Poor of the Parish or Parishes where the said Offenders be, or inhabit, to be recovered by the Churchwardens; the other Moyety to him that will sue for the same, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint or Information.

The one Moyety to the poor, and the other to the party suing.

Pro-

Provided that this Act, or any thing herein contained, shall not extend to charge any Blowing-house and Stamp, Furnace or Kiln, or any Private Oven within any of the houses hereby charged, nor any Hearth or Stove within the scite of any Hospital or Almshouse for the relief of poor people, whose Endowment and Revenue doth not exceed in true value the sum of One hundred pounds by the year.

No Blowing-house, &c. shall be charged by this Act.

Nor any Hearth within the scite of any Hospital, &c.

Provided, that the payments and Duties hereby charged, shall be charged onely on the Occupier for the time being of such Hearth or Stove, dwelling in such house whereto such Hearth or Stove shall be belonging, his Executors or Administrators, and not on the Landlord who Let or Demised the same, His Heirs, Executors or Assigns.

The payments shall be charged upon the Occupier onely.

No person indebted for the duties of this Act, shall be thereby priviledged to Sue another in the Exchequer.

Provided also, That no person or persons Indebted for any the Duties aforesaid, shall thereby be priviledged as a Debtor or Debtors to His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, to Sue any person or persons in the Court of Exchequer, or to assign any Debt to His Majesty, His Heirs or Successors, towards satisfaction of the same.

Anno

Anno XV

CAROLI II. Regis.

An Additional Act for the better Ordering and Collecting the Revenue ariſing by Hearth-money.

PREAMBLE.

Whereas the Revenue Setled on His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, by a late Act, Entituled (An Act for eſtabliſhing an Additional Revenue upon His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, for the better ſupport of His and their Crown and Dignity) **hath been much obſtructed for want of true and juſt Ac-**

compts under the hands of the respective Occupiers of Houses, Edifices, Lodgings and Chambers, as by the said Act is required, and by the negligence of Constables and other Officers intrusted with the Taking and Reforming such Accompts: Be it therefore Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament assembled, and by Authority of the same, That the Justices of the Peace of the Respective Counties, Corporations, Places and Limits within their respective Jurisdictions, at the next Sessions to be held after the Feast of Saint Michael the Archangel next ensuing, or the major part of them then present, shall issue out Warrants under their

The Justices of Peace at the next Sessions after *Michaelmas* 1661, shall issue Warrants to the High Constables, *&c.*

their Hands and Seals to the respective High Constables, or other like next Officer, who shall issue the like Warrants unto the Petty Constables, Headboroughs and Tithingmen, requiring them on the next Sunday after Morning Service ended, to give publick notice in the Church or Chappel generally to all the Inhabitants, and also to give notice publickly in the Church, and particularly as aforesaid to every Inhabitant within their respective Precincts, that shall then be Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber, That within Ten days next after such notice, he give a true and just accompt in writing under his hand, of all Hearths and Stoves in such respective House, Edifice, Lodging and Chamber, unto such respective

Who shall issue like Warrants to the petty Constables, &c.

requiring them (the next Sunday after Morning Service) to give publick notice in the Church, &c.

And particular notice to every Occupier of any house, &c. within their Precincts,

That (within ten days) they give to them a just Accompt of all houses, &c.

The Constables, &c. shall (upon receipt thereof) with two other Inhabitants enter into all houses, &c.

Constable, Headborough and Tithingman, who upon receipt of such Accompt, shall with Two other substantial Inhabitants of the said respective Precinct, whom they are hereby Authorized to Charge for that purpose, in the day-time enter into the respective House, Edifice, Lodging, and Chamber, and upon his own view

And shall compare and examine the truth of such Accompts, and Endorse them according to view,

compare such Accompt, and see whether the same be truly made or not, and Endorse the said Accompt accordingly to what he finds upon his view; which Accompt so received and Endorsed, shall be by him transmitted within twenty

And transmit them (within twenty days after receipt) to the High Constable, &c.

days after such Receipt, to the respective High-Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, together with a Book or Roll fairly written, wherein shall be two Columes,

Together with a Book or Roll with two Columes.

The

The one containing the Names of the persons, and number of Hearths and Stoves in their respective Possessions, that are chargeable by the said Act; and the other the Names of the persons, and number of Hearths and Stoves in their respective Possessions, which are not chargeable by the said Act: Which being so received by such respective High Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, and compared together, shall within six days after such Receipt be transmitted to the two next respective Justices of the Peace, who are hereby impowered to examine the said respective High Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, Petty Constable, Headborough or Tythingman, upon Oath, concerning the truth and faithfulness of their actings in the

The one with the names of the Persons and Hearths, &c. chargeable in their possessions.

The other of Persons and Hearths, &c. not chargeable.

The High Constables, &c. shall compare, and (within six days after Receipt) transmit them to the two next Justices of Peace,

who shall examine the High Constables, &c. upon Oath concerning the truth of their actings.

premiſes; which being done, the ſaid Juſtices ſhall within ten days after ſuch examination, Sign and Tranſmit the ſaid Book and Roll, together with the ſaid Original Accompts ſo Endorſed as aforeſaid, and Filed together, unto the reſpective Clerk of the Peace, who ſhall within Twenty days after receipt thereof, Engroſs the ſaid Book or Roll in Parchment, to be ſtill kept in the reſpective County and Places aforeſaid; and ſhall alſo within Two Moneths Engroſs in Parchment a true Duplicate of the ſaid Book or Roll, which being Signed by him and by two Juſtices of the Peace at leaſt of the reſpective County and Places aforeſaid, ſhall be tranſmitted within one Moneth after ſuch Engroſſment into his Majeſties Courts of Exchequer.

The ſaid Juſtices ſhall (within ten days after examination) ſign and tranſmit ſuch Accompt to the Clerk of the Peace.

The Clerk of the Peace (within twenty days) ſhall engroſs the ſaid Book or Roll, &c.

And (within two moneths) Engroſs a Duplicate thereof,

which ſigned by him and two Juſtices, &c. ſhall be tranſmitted (within one moneth) into the Exchequer.

Pro-

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging, or Chamber, shall not make or cause to be made an Accompt, or shall omit in his Accompt required to be made by this Act, any Hearth or Stove; he shall for every such Hearth or Stove he shall so omit, forfeit the sum of Fourty shillings.

Every Occupier not giving in (or omitting any Hearth, &c. in) his Accompt, shall forfeit Forty shillings for every such Omission.

Provided also, That if any Petty Constable, Headborough or Tythingman to whom such Accompts as aforesaid shall come, shall neglect to transmit the same, together with a Book or Roll in manner and time aforesaid, to the respective High Constable, or other like Officer as aforesaid, or shall make default in giving such notice as aforesaid, or in comparing the Accompt with two substantial Inha-

The Constables, &c. neglecting their Duty, shall forfeit for every offence Five pound.

bitants as aforesaid, shall forfeit for every such offence the sum of Five pounds.

Every High Constable, &c. neglecting his Duty, shall forfeit for each offence, x *l.*

Provided also, That if any High Constable or other like Officer as aforesaid, shall neglect to compare the said Original Accompts and the said Book or Roll, or to transmit the same in manner and time aforesaid, he shall for every such Offence forfeit the sum of Ten pounds. All which before mentioned Forfeitures and Penalties shall be recovered by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesties Courts of Record, the one half to the use of His Majesty, the other half to the use of him or them that shall sue for the same.

Which forfeitures shall be recovered by Action of Debt, &c.

And whereas His Majesties said Revenue setled by the aforesaid Act, hath been much prejudiced by Annual changing of Petty Constables,

bles, Headboroughs, Tythingmen, High Constables, and Sheriffs, to whom the Collecting and Receipt of His Majesties said Revenue is thereby intrusted; Be it therefore Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the changing of such Annual Officers, or leaving of their said Offices, shall not excuse or disable any person who shall be Constable, Headborough, Tythingman, High Constable, or Sheriff at the time that any Revenue or Duty shall grow due or payable by the said Act, from Collecting, Distraining, and Receiving respectively such Revenue or Duty so grown due; but that every such person in such case is hereby enabled and required to do all things respectively, as to such Revenue or Duty so growing due, as if he had continued Constable, Headborough,

The changing of Annual Officers shall not excuse or disable them from Collecting, &c. any the Revenues payable, &c.

borough, Tythingman, High Constable or Sheriff; Any thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Every person appointed by the Acts to Collect, &c. shall forfeit twenty shillings for every weeks neglect of his duty.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person who by the said, or this Act, ought to Collect, Distrain for, Receive or Pay over any the said Revenue, shall neglect or refuse to do his duty therein, for every week he shall neglect or refuse, he shall forfeit the sum of Twenty shillings, to be recovered in manner, and by such person or persons as the aforesaid Forfeitures by this Act are to be recovered.

Any Officer (by the Acts enabled to enter and distrain) may call to his aid two other Inhabitants, &c.

Provided also, and be it Declared and Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That in all cases which by this or the aforesaid Act, any Petty Constable, Headborough, or Tythingman, may enter into the house of any

any person, or may Distrain the Goods of any person, he may call to his aid any two sufficient Inhabitants of the respective Townships or Precincts, who are hereby enjoyned to assist him therein.

Provided also, and be it Enacted and Declared by the Authority aforesaid, That where any Sheriff is by the aforesaid Act appointed to be Collector of any part of the said Revenue, that such Sheriff may execute the said Place of Collector, by such Deputy or Deputies as to him shall seem meet, being thereunto appointed under the Great Seal of his Office, or under his own hand and seal; Any thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

All Sheriffs made Collectors, may execute by their Deputies.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority afore-

The Officers of Inns of Court, &c. shall do all things as the Constables, &c. under like Penalties, and without Warrant from the Justices;

aforesaid, That the respective Treasurers, and other Officers of the respective Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies chargeable by the aforesaid Act for their Hearths and Stoves, shall do all things as the respective Constables by this Act are enjoyned to do, under the like Penalties, though without any Warrant from the respective Justices of the Peace; And that every Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber within any the respective Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges and Societies aforesaid, shall do all things, and under the like Penalties as are required by this Act of any Occupier of any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber elsewhere.

And Occupiers there shall do all things under like Penalties as Occupiers elsewhere.

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority afore-

aforesaid, That the High Bayliff of Westminster for the time being, or his or their Deputy or Deputies, may within the City and Liberties of Westminster, from and after the Eight and twentieth day of September next, Collect & Levy the said Duty, and put in execution all the Powers of the said former Act, and this present Act, as amply as any Sheriffs who by the said former Act are made Collectors, may do within their respective Limits and Jurisdictions appointed to them by the said Act: And the said Bayliff for the time being shall be subject to the same Penalties and Duties as the said Sheriffs are, and shall receive the same reward; and the Sheriff of Middlesex for the time being is discharged from putting in execution the Trust aforesaid in the said City and Liberty of Westminster, from the

The High Bayliff of *Westminster*, &c. may (after the 28 of *September* 1663) put the powers of the Acts in execution, &c.

And shall be subject to the same Penalties, and receive the same reward, as other, &c.

The Sheriff of *Middlesex* is discharged from acting in *Westminster*, save about arrears onely.

the said Eight and twentieth day of September, saving only for the Collecting of such Arrears as then shall happen to be: And the Constables and Headboroughs, and other Officers within the said City and Liberty of Westminster, shall deliver unto the said Bayliff, Duplicates of all Accompts of Hearths and Stoves, and do all other things in such manner as by the said Act they ought to have done unto the said Sheriffs; Any thing in the said, or this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Constables, &c. of *Westminster* shall deliver their Accompts to the said Bayliff.

Provided always, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That the Bayliff of the Burrough of Southwark for the time being, his Deputy or Deputies, may within the said Burrough, and other Liberties of Southwark, from and after the Eight and twen-

The Bayliff of *Southwark* may execute like powers, &c.

twentieth day of September next, Collect and Levy the said Duty, and put in execution all the Powers of the said former Act, and this present Act, as amply as any Sheriffs who by the said former Act are made Collectors, may do, within their respective Limits and Jurisdictions appointed to them by the said Act; and the said Bayliff for the time being shall be subject to the same Penalties and Duties, as the said Sheriffs are, and shall receive the same reward; and the Sheriff of Surrey for the time being is discharged from putting in execution the Trust aforesaid in the said Burrough & Liberties of Southwark, from the said Eight and twentieth day of September; And the Constables and other Officers within the said Burrough and Liberties, shall deliver unto the said Bayliff,

He shall be subject to the like penalties, & may receive the like reward, &c.

The Sheriff of *Surrey* disabled. &c.

The Constables, &c. of *Southwark* shall deliver their Accompts to the said Bayliff.

liff, Duplicates of all Accompts of Hearths and Stoves, and do all other things in such manner as by the said Acts they ought to have done unto the said Sheriffs: Any thing in the said former or this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Lord Treasurer, and the Chancellour of the Exchequer may make further allowance to the Clerks of the Peace, not exceeding one peny in the pound.

Provided also, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the Lord High Treasurer of England, and the Chancellor of His Majesties Court of Exchequer, or either of them, to give and make such further allowance unto the Clerks of the Peace of the respective Counties of this Kingdom (for their labour and pains in and about the Writing, Engrossing and Returning into His Majesties Court of Exchequer, the Duplicates and Returns of the several Constables, in Parchment, over and

and besides what is allowed by the said first recited Act) as the said Lord High Treasurer and Chancellor, or either of them shall think meet and convenient, the same allowance not exceeding One peny in the pound by the year; Any thing in the said former, or in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

Anno

Anno XVI
CAROLI II. Regis.

AN ACT FOR

Collecting the Duty arising by Hearth-money, by Officers to be appointed by His Majesty.

PREAMBLE.

WHereas by an Act made in the Parliament begun at Westminster the Eighth day of May, in the Thirteenth year of His Majesties Reign that now is, Entituled, An Act for Establishing an Additional Revenue upon His

His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the better support of His and their Crown and Dignity; And by another Act made in the second Session of the said Parliament in the Fifteenth year of the Reign of His said Majesty, Entituled, An Additional Act for the better Ordering and Collecting the Revenue arising by Hearth-money, It was Enacted and Ordained, That from and after the Five and twentieth day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand six hundred sixty and two, every Dwelling, and other House and Edifice, and all Lodgings in Inns of Court, Inns of Chancery, Colledges, and other Societies that are, or hereafter shall be erected within the Kingdom of England, Dominion of Wales, and Town of Berwick upon Tweed (other then such as are therein excepted)

excepted) shall be, and are charged with the Annual payment to the Kings Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for every Fire-hearth and Stove within every such House, Edifice, Chambers and Lodgings, the sum of Two shillings by the year, to be paid yearly at the Feasts of Saint Michael the Arch-angel, and of the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary, by even and equal Portions; an exact and just Accompt of the numbers of all which Fire-Hearths and Stoves is thereby Enacted to be taken and returned into His Majesties Court of Exchequer; And the Moneys and Revenues due and payable for the same, to be Collected, Levied and Paid to His Majesty, by such persons and Officers, in manner and form as by the said Acts is prescribed.

Nevertheless, by reason of some defects in the said Act, and great negligence of the said Officers and other persons, in not returning the exact Numbers of the said Fire-hearths and Stoves, and not duly Collecting, Levying and paying into His Majesties Exchequer the full Revenue due for the Numbers returned at the times appointed, and by sundry fraudulent practises to elude the said Acts, the said Revenue is much diminished, and not duly answered.

For remedy thereof, and for the better ascertaining and collecting the said Revenue for the future, Be it Enacted by the Kings most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons in this present Parliament Assembled, and by Autho-

Authority of the ſame, That it ſhall and may be lawful to and for the Kings Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, from, and after the Four and twentieth day of June, One thouſand ſix hundred ſixty four, from time to time, by, and with the advice of the Lord High Treaſurer, Chancellour, Under-Treaſurer, and Barons of the Court of Exchequer for the time being, or any three of them, whereof the Lord High Treaſurer or Chancellour of the Exchequer to be one, to conſtitute and appoint ſuch perſon or perſons as His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors ſhall think meet, to be the Officer or Officers for the receiving and collecting, and anſwering the Duty ariſing by the ſaid Fire-hearths and Stoves, by virtue of the ſaid ſeveral Acts, and for

The Kings Majeſty, &c. may appoint Officers to receive and anſwer the Duty ariſing by Fire-hearths, &c.

And for viewing and numbring the ſaid Hearths, &c. and inſpecting the returns thereof made, and to be made.

viewing and numbring of the ſeveral Chimney-Hearths and Stoves mentioned in the ſaid Acts; and for the inſpecting and examining the ſeveral Rolls, Certificates, and Returns thereof made, and to be made from time to time into His Majeſties Court of Exchequer, in purſuance of the ſaid Acts, or any other thing belonging to the ſame; which Officers, or any of them ſhall have full power to examine and ſupervise the Rolls and Numbers of Fire-hearths and Stoves already returned into the ſaid Court of Exchequer; And being accompanied with the Conſtable, or the Tythingman, Treaſurer, Under-Treaſurer, or other publick or proper Officer of the place (who are hereby required to attend and aſſiſt upon this occaſion)

And to examine the Rolls, &c. returned into the Exchequer.

And with the Conſtable, &c. (or without where none) to enter into any houſe, &c.

ſion) and in all Pariſhes and places where there are no Conſtables, Tithingmen, or other publick Officer, as aforeſaid, there, without any ſuch aſſiſtance to enter in the day-time into any dwelling or other Houſe, Edifice, Lodgings and Chambers aforeſaid, and to ſearch and examine whether there be any more Fire-hearths and Stoves in the ſame then were formerly returned or certified; and what Fire-hearths or Stoves are increaſed, or decreaſed ſince the former Certificate. After which ſearch and examination, the ſaid Officer, with a Conſtable, or Tithingman, or Officers as aforeſaid, ſhall have liberty to make the like ſearch and examination once every year: And if they ſhall find any variance in the number returned, both the Officer or Officers appointed by his Majeſty,

And ſearch if there be any more Fire-hearths, &c.

And what are increaſed, and what decreaſed, &c.

And to make like ſearch once every year.

If they ſhall find any variance, they ſhall certifie the ſame to the Clerk of the Peace.

and the Conſtable or Tithingman, or other Officer as aforeſaid, to certifie the ſame under his and their hands to the Clerk of the Peace, which Certificate they are hereby enjoyned to make: And after approbation thereof by the Juſtices of the Peace at their Seſſions, the ſame to be certified to His Majeſties Remembrancer in the Exchequer; and the Officer or Officers ſo appointed by His Majeſty unto the ſame, ſhall from and after the ſaid Four and twentieth day of June, One thouſand ſix hundred ſixty Four, have power to Collect and Levy the Revenue and Duties ſo given to His Majeſty as aforeſaid, and all Arrears of the ſame.

Which being approved by the Juſtices at their Seſſions, ſhall be tranſmitted into the Exchequer.

Such Officers ſhall Collect the Duty from the Twenty fourth of June, 1664.

And be it further Enacted, That the ſaid Duty ſhall from time to time be paid after the Feaſt-days of Saint Michael the Arch-angel,

The Duty ſhall be paid (when due) upon demand thereof, at the houſe, &c.

gel, and the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary yearly, unto such Officer as shall be appointed by vertue of this present Act to receive the same upon demand thereof made by such Officer, or his Deputy, at the House, Chamber, or place where the same Duty shall arise, or grow due: And that in case of refusal, or default of such payment thereof, by the space of one hour after such demand, the said Officer or his Deputy may at any time, with the assistance of a Constable, Tithingman, or other Officer as aforesaid, in the day-time, levy the said Duty, and all the Arrearages thereof, by distress and sale of the Goods of the party or parties so refusing, or making default, restoring to the party or parties the overplus of the value of such Goods, over and above the Duty and Arrearages there-

In default of payment, one hour after demand, the duty may be levied by distress and sale of Goods, &c.

Restoring the overplus, charges deducted, not exceeding one moyety of the duty.

of then behind, and over and above the necessary Charges of taking such Distress, which Charges shall in no case exceed the one moyety of the Duty and Arrearages thereof so levied.

None shall be charged, &c. for the duty after it hath been due two years, &c.

Provided always, and be it Enacted, That no Owners, Proprietors, or Occupiers of the said Fire-hearths or Stoves, shall be charged, distrained, or molested for the said duty, or any Arrearages thereof, at any time after the space of two years next after the Duty hereafter shall become due to His Majesty, His Heirs, or Successors; Nor for any Arrearages of the said duty already incurred, after the space of two years, from the Four and twentieth day of June, One thousand six hundred sixty and four.

Nor for any old Arrears after two years from the 24 of *June*, 1664.

Opposition or injury to any Officer, &c. shall be proved by oath before a Justice of Peace.

And in case of violent opposition, or injury done by any person or persons to any such

ſuch Officer or his Deputy, in the due execution of this Act; and the ſame proved by Oath before any one Juſtice of the Peace, or chief Magiſtrate, or Magiſtrates of the City, Town, or Place, dwelling near unto the place, who are hereby authorized to adminiſter the ſaid Oath; It ſhall and may be lawful to, and for ſuch Juſtice of the Peace, Magiſtrate or Magiſtrates, to puniſh ſuch offender or offenders, if he ſhall find cauſe, by Impriſonment in the common Goal, for any time not exceeding the ſpace of one moneth. And from and after the ſaid Four and twentieth day of June, One Thouſand ſix hundred ſixty four, all Officers formerly appointed to Collect the ſaid Duty, ſhall be diſcharged from the future collecting and levying the ſame, otherwiſe then as they are directed by this Act:

Such Juſtices of Peace may impriſon offenders for the ſpace of one moneth.

After the twenty fourth of *June*, 1664. all Officers appointed to Collect the Duty by the former Acts, ſhall be diſcharged from acting otherwiſe then by this Act.

The Officers ſo appointed ſhall pay the duty into the Exchequer.

And the ſaid Officer and Officers ſo appointed by His Majeſty to Collect this Duty, ſhall pay the ſame into His Majeſties Exchequer, to the ends in the ſaid former Acts mentioned.

All perſons to be imployed, ſhall give ſecurity for the diſcharge of their truſts,

Provided, That no perſon or perſons ſhall be employed as aforeſaid, unleſs he and they ſhall firſt give in ſufficient Security to His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, for the due Collecting, Levying and Paying in of the ſaid Revenue, or ſuch part thereof as ſhall be committed to their reſpective Truſts, ſhall likewiſe take a Corporal Oath before one or more of the Barons of the Exchequer, or before ſuch perſons as ſhall be authorized to take ſuch Security and Oath by Commiſſion from the ſaid Court of Exchequer, for the due and faithful execution thereof, according to the

And ſhall take a Corporal Oath, &c. for the due execution thereof.

Laws

Laws Enacted to that purpose; And that they shall not exact or demand any Fee, or sum of money for execution thereof, from any Subject, but onely from the Kings Majesty, under pain of being disabled to execute the said Office or Imployment; And upon legal Conviction of any such Crime, to render treble damage to the party grieved: And shall sign and deliver Acquittances for moneys by them received, without any Fee or Reward whatsoever; and every such Acquittance shall be a final Discharge, as in the said first Act is provided.

They shall not demand any Fee, &c. under penalty of disabling, and rendring treble, &c.

They shall give Acquittances, which shall be final Discharges.

And be it further Enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That if any person occupying any Hearth or Stove chargeable to His Majesty, shall leave or relinquish any House, Edifice, Lodging or Chamber, before any of the half-yearly Feasts whereon

Upon removal of any Occupier, &c. before the half-year day.

the ſame is appointed to be paid to His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors; In every ſuch caſe, the next Occupier thereof ſhall be chargeable with the ſame for the ſaid half year: And if any perſon ſhall fraudulently ſtop up, deface, cover or conceal any Chimney-hearth, or Stove chargeable by the ſaid Act, and the ſame be proved, either by confeſſion of the party, or upon Oath before one Juſtice of Peace, or chief Magiſtrate, or by their view, he ſhall for ſuch offence pay double the value of the Duty for the ſame, to be levied as aforeſaid.

The next Occupier ſhall be chargeable with ſuch half-years due.

They that ſhall ſtop up, &c. any Hearth, &c. chargeable, ſhall pay double the value of the duty.

And be it likewiſe Enacted, That if any perſon within one year laſt paſt hath, or hereafter ſhall let the Lands, Gardens, Orchards or Outhouſes formerly belonging to any Dwelling-houſe or Cottage apart from the ſame, or ſhall divide any houſe

They that within one year paſt have (or hereafter ſhall) let the Lands, &c. formerly belonging to any houſe, &c. or ſhall divide any houſe, or let the ſame to perſons exempted by the Act, ſhall pay the Duty as they ought to have done before.

house into several dwellings, or let out the same to any such persons, who by reason of their poverty may pretend to be exempted from payment of the said Duty, by any Clause or Clauses in the former Acts, That in every such case, such persons shall pay the said Duty in as ample manner as they ought to have done before that time. And that no person or persons inhabiting any Dwelling-house (not being an Alms-house exempted by the former Act) within any City, Burrough, Corporation, Market-Town, or Parish, which hath, or shall have in it more then two Chimneys, Fire-hearths or Stoves, shall be exempted from payment of the Duties thereon imposed, by colour of any exemption or pretext whatsoever.

The occupier of every dwelling (not being an Alms-house) which hath more then two Chimneys, &c. in it, shall not be exempted, &c.

And if any question or diffe-

Differences arising about execution of this Act, shall be determined by one or more Justices of Peace.

difference shall arise about the taking any Distress, or levying any money by vertue of this Act, the same shall be heard and finally determined by one or more of the Justices of the Peace near adjoyning, or chief Magistrate of the Place respectively, upon complaint in that behalf.

Collectors not paying in the moneys received by them, within three moneths after due, shall lose their Offices.

And be it further Enacted, That every Collector who shall be authorized and appointed by vertue of this Act to receive any of the said Duties, shall truly answer and pay all such moneys as he shall receive for the said Duties, into His Majesties Receit of Exchequer, half-yearly, within Three moneths after the Feast of Saint Michael the Arch-angel, or the Annunciation of the blessed Virgin Mary, happening next after the time the same moneys grew due to His Majesty by vertue

tue of the said Acts, and under the penalty of the loss of his Office: and the Justices of Peace, and chief Magistrates, Constables, and other His Majesties Officers within their several Limits and Jurisdictions, are hereby authorized and required to give assistance from time to time, to such Officers as shall be appointed by His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, for the collecting of the said Duty according to the true meaning of the said former Acts, and this present Act.

Justices of Peace, &c. are required to assist the Officers appointed to Collect the Duty.

Provided, That no person or persons shall be questioned for any Arrears due on or before our Lady-day, One thousand six hundred sixty four, who shall produce to the Collector a Certificate approved, or to be approved of, by the two next Justices of Peace, for their exemption from the said Duty for that time,

No persons producing a Certificate for their exemption, shall be questioned for any Arrears due on or before *Lady-day*, 1664.

time, according to the Rules preſcribed in the ſaid firſt recited Act; nor any perſon who hath truly paid the ſaid Duty, and ſhall, if it be required, make proof thereof before any one Juſtice of Peace, or other chief Magiſtrate of the place; Any thing therein contained, or any Return made into His Majeſties Exchequer to the contrary thereof in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

Nor any perſon who hath paid the Duty, and ſhall make proof thereof.

Provided alſo, and be it Enacted by the Authority aforeſaid, That all and every ſuch Officer or Officers as ſhall be at any time appointed by His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, for the collecting, gathering and receiving of the ſeveral ſums of money now or hereafter to grow due unto His Majeſty, His Heirs and Succeſſors, for or in reſpect of the ſaid Duty ariſing upon the Fire-hearths & Soves, ſhall

The Collectors appointed by this Act, &c. ſhall pay unto the Conſtables, &c. the Allowances made to them in any of the former Acts.

shall satisfie and pay unto the respective Petty-Constables and Clerks of the Peace of this Kingdom, all such allowances as are by any former Act or Acts given and allowed unto them, as well for their pains and labour heretofore, as hereafter to be taken by them, as in and by the former Acts concerning Fire-hearths and Stoves are limited and appointed; Any thing in this Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

By

By the King.

A PROCLAMATION

For the more exact and punctual Collecting and Answering His Majesties Revenue arising upon Fire-Hearths and Stoves.

CHARLES R.

Whereas Our Revenue arising by Fire-hearths and Stoves, hath of late time been very much in arrear, and continues still behind and unpaid in many parts of Our Kingdom, partly through the misdemeanours of some persons who have presumed to conceal many Fire-hearths and Stoves, for which by Law they are chargeable, And to prevent the discovery of such Frauds

Frauds, refuse to permit Our Officers or their Deputies to make their views, or to take Distresses; And partly through the neglect or connivance of several Justices of Peace, chief Magistrates, Ministers, Constables, and Churchwardens, who have given too much countenance to illegal and undue Certificates, and too little assistance to Our Officers and their Deputies in Collecting the said Revenue, whom they have in some places suffered to be reproached, and sometimes assaulted, without punishing the Malefactors, although it be the Duty of all Constables, Headboroughs, and other inferior Officers, to accompany, assist, and defend Our Officers and their Deputies in their Collections, and the Duty of all Justices of the Peace, and chief Magistrates in their respective

Places

Places and Callings, and with the utmost of their Authority to support Our Revenue, so well established by Law, and so necessary to the safety and defence of Us and Our good Subjects: We therefore resolving for the time to come to take a strict Accompt of all such persons as shall hereafter be found wanting in their Duty to Us, and to the Laws of Our Kingdom, have thought fit by the advice of Our Council, to Declare, and do hereby Publish Our Royal Will and Pleasure, That all Arrears of Our said Revenue, as well those which were incurred at, or before the Feast of St. Michael, in the year of Our Lord One thousand six hundred sixty and five, as those which have incurred since, and all future growing Duties, shall forthwith, and with all possible speed and diligence, be collected and levied

levied by, and paid unto Our respective Officers and their Deputies appointed for that purpose; That is to say, What was due at, or before Michaelmas 1665. to such Receivers or Collectors as already are, or shall be Commissionated by Us in pursuance of the Act of Parliament in that behalf, and to none other; And what did grow due for the half-year ended at Lady-day, 1666. and not before, and so forward, to the Farmers of Our said Revenue, their Sub-farmers and Substitutes during their Term; The said Farmers, their Sub-farmers or Substitutes having no Authority, nor being any way concerned in the Receiving or Collecting any part of the said Revenue, which did grow due before Our Lady-day, 1666. aforesaid, nor of any Penalty or Forfeiture which was not incurred till after

after Michaelmas 1665. And We do hereby ſtraitly Charge and Command all Juſtices of Peace, chief Magiſtrates, Headboroughs, Conſtables, Tithingmen, and all other Officers and Miniſters of Juſtice whom it doth or may concern, That they be aiding and aſſiſting to Our ſaid Officers and their Deputies in the Collecting and Levying the ſaid Arrears; and alſo in the Collecting and Levying all ſuch further ſums of money as hereafter ſhall grow due and payable for, or by reaſon of any Fire-hearths or Stoves, according to the utmoſt of their power: And herein We do expect and require from them and every of them, ſo vigorous and effectual aſſiſtance, that all concealment of any Hearths or Stoves may be ſpeedily detected, all illegal and undue Certificates diſcharged

for

for exempting of any persons, all obstructions in the Collecting of our said Revenue removed; and all persons which shall assault or affront Our Officers or their Deputies either in word or deed, exemplarily punished, upon pain of Our high Displeasure, and of being proceeded against as Contemners of Our Royal Authority, and as persons ill affected to the Peace and Safety of Our Kingdom. And to the end Our Will and Pleasure herein may be made known, We do hereby Will and Require all Sheriffs, Mayors and Bayliffs in the several and respective Counties, Cities, and Towns-corporate of this Our Realm, to cause this Our Proclamation to be published in all and every the Market-places within their Limits, upon some Market-day, within Fourteen days next after

after their Receipt thereof, as they will answer the contrary at their perils.

Given at Our Court at Whitehall the 19th day of December, in the 18th year of Our Reign, 1666.

God Save the King.

THE FOLGER SHAKESPEARE LIBRARY